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Regional Administrator:

Nothing

ETPA Office Director:

Consultation on Reissuance of Cook Inlet General Permit for Oil and Gas

R10 will offer a consultation meeting on Reissuance of Cook Inlet General Permit for Oil and Gas to interested representatives of Cook Inlet tribal governments on Tuesday February 5 in conjunction with the Alaska Forum on the Environment. OW Director Dan Opalksi will represent EPA Leadership, and Southcentral Alaska Tribal Coordinator Katherine Brown and Project Lead Cindi Godsey will facilitate. OW held an informational teleconference for tribes December 18, and extended the deadline for comments on the preliminary draft Cook Inlet General Permit for Oil and Gas Exploration Activities in Federal Waters through January 31.

The 2007 NPDES General Permit for Oil and Gas Facilities in Cook Inlet that expired in July 2012 had covered exploration discharges in both state and federal waters, as well as existing production facilities discharges (all of which are in state waters). The 2007 permit and the effluent limits for existing production facilities are still in litigation. EPA plans to reissue only the exploration components of a NPDES General Permit for federal waters, and to do so in conjunction with a state issuance of an APDES General Permit for exploration discharges in state waters. All existing production facilities that reapplied in a timely manner continue to have coverage through an administrative extension of the expired 2007 permit. Future issuance and administration of both the exploration and existing production facility permits for state waters will be by the ADEC.

Assessment of Cook Inlet Tribes' Subsistence Consumption

Seldovia Village Tribe in southcentral Alaska is completing an assessment of Cook Inlet Tribes' subsistence consumption. Funded through an FY12 IGAP Special Project, this study was modeled after the CRITFC survey, and the tribes hope to follow-up with a 2nd phase project to assess contaminant levels in FY14. Seldovia submitted a Draft Cook Inlet Subsistence Assessment Report and data December 30. According to the draft report, the overall average rate of fish consumption by adults throughout the year was 94.8 grams/day. The overall average rate reported by the CRITFC study was 58.7 grams/day. The highest average rates of fish consumption in the Cook Inlet study were by Nanwalek females- 164 grams/day and Port Graham males- 159 grams/day. Currently, ADEC uses a fish consumption rate of 6.5 grams/day to calculate human health criteria. TTAU convened an internal review panel including staff from ETPA, OEA, and OW January 16. [REDACTED]

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Proposal to Assess Kodiak Island Tribe's Subsistence Consumption

Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak in Southcentral Alaska has submitted an FY IGAP Unmet Needs/ Special Project Proposal to assess Kodiak Island Tribe's Subsistence Consumption, replicating Seldovia's Cook Inlet work.

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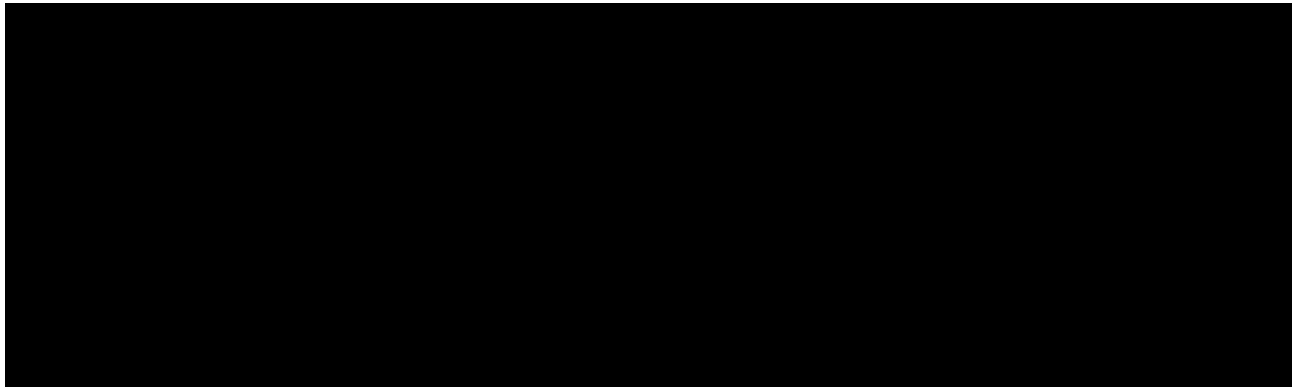
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